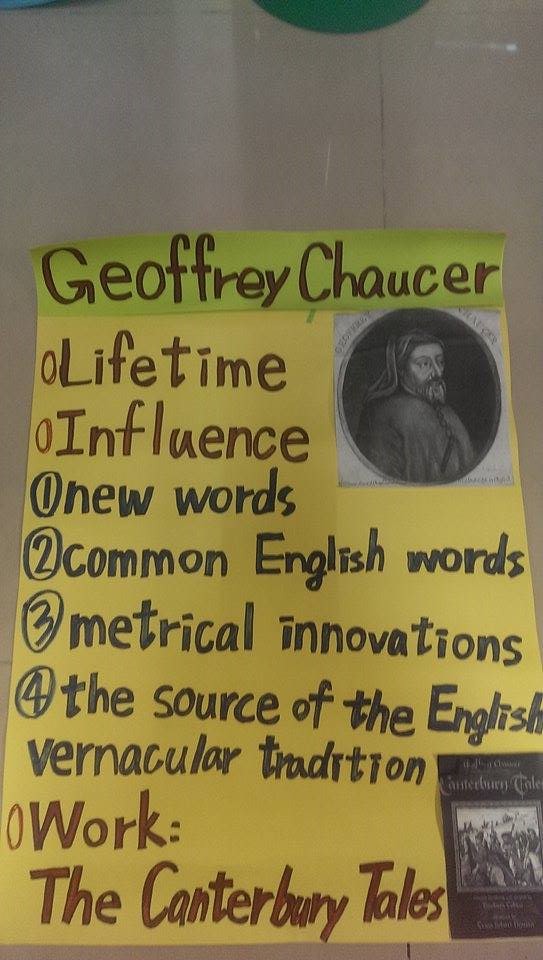
Jenny Yang

Dep. of Education

History of English

**Geoffrey Chaucer**

In my other course of English literature, I have learned about some works of Geoffrey Chaucer. After studying his some works and his life time, I found that he has a great influence on English literature. Therefore, I would like to study deeply and share my findings with classmates through this presentation. In my presentation, I will focus on four main topics, which are his life time, his works, his influence on English literature and his most well-known work, The Canterbury Tale. First, in his life time, Geoffrey Chaucer had done various jobs and through his father’s connections, he even had worked for the king and severed as a diplomat. His experience of being diplomat has great influence on his works. Secondly, I list some of his works and short poems and introduce some backgrounds of works. Thirdly, in the part of his influence on English literature, I divide it into four parts to understand it clearly. The four parts are new words, common English words, metrical innovations and the source of English vernacular tradition. In addition, there are three categories in the part of new words, which are externally new words, internally new words and nonce words. Externally new words are words that are brought in the English language by Chaucer; they are new in English literature in general. Internally new words, conversely, are words that were new to Chaucer’s works themselves but that were already existent in the English language. And nonce words are words that are only used in one particular work by Chaucer. After introducing the biggest part, his influence, I will introduce Chaucer’s famous work, The Canterbury Tale. I hope through my presentation, classmates may know more about Geoffrey Chaucer and his influence on English literature.



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